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February 18, 1986

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RECEIVED
FEB 24 1986
LAW DEPARTMENT

Re: Dr. Theodor Sterling

Gentlemen:

Dr. Theodor D. Sterling has submitted a request to continue his current project for a two year period from May 1986 through April 1988. The proposed budget is \$532,000 per year for the two year period. We recommend that this research proposal be approved and funded as a CTR Special Project.

Dr. Sterling continues to be active in a variety of areas that are of importance to the industry. He and his colleagues have expended considerable effort in reviewing studies which claim an association between smoking and disease. They have recently submitted a paper to the Risk Analysis Journal dealing with errors generated by the ACS study data ("Errors in Estimates of Smoking-Related Deaths Derived from Nonsmoker Mortality"). Similarly, Dr. Sterling and colleagues have written a paper entitled "The Extent, Persistence and Constancy of the Healthy Worker or Healthy Person Effect: By All and Selected Causes of Death". This paper is critical of the U.S. Veterans study data and has been submitted for publication to the Journal of Occupational Medicine. Most recently, Dr. Sterling and coworkers have

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discovered a study population - the National Mortality Followback Survey - which permits an independent assessment of the association between smoking and mortality. An analysis and evaluation of the Followback Survey is now being completed and will be submitted for publication in the near future.

In addition, Dr. Sterling continues his ongoing review of the roles of occupation and smoking. Two manuscripts on the topic are now in preparation. The first deals with potential biases and errors in Doll and Peto's The Causes of Cancer. A second study involves an update of previous work on smoking prevalence by occupation and industry. Dr. Sterling and colleagues believe that this update will demonstrate the necessity of including the occupation of the smoker in any study on the association of smoking to disease.

Dr. Sterling and coworkers are preparing a paper compiling the various errors which have been committed in epidemiology on tobacco use and health. They contend in the paper that advocacy rather than substantive scientific method has guided the analysis and presentation of smoking-related data.

Dr. Sterling also remains very active in the issue of nonsmoker exposure and indoor air quality. He and his coworkers continue to publish extensively in the area. Some titles, published in 1984-1986, include:

"Indirect Health Effects of Relative Humidity in Indoor Environments", Env Hlth Stat 65, January, 1986; "Criteria for Human Exposure in Occupied Buildings", ASHRAE Transactions 99, 1985; "Possible Carcinogenic Components of Indoor Air: Combustion Products, Formaldehyde, Mineral Fibers, Radiation and Tobacco Smoke", J Env Science and Hlth 2, 1985; "Effects of Restricting and Prohibiting Smoking in Office Environments on Reactions of Office Personnel to Environmental Health and Stress Factors", Indoor Air 2, 1984; "Comparison of Nonsmokers and Smokers' Perceptions of Environmental Conditions and Health and Comfort Symptoms in Office Environments With and Without Smoking" and "The Effects of Sealed Office Buildings on the Ambient Environment of Office Workers," both in Ergonomics and Health in Modern Offices, 1984 and "The Economics and Politics in the Assessment of Causes of Building Illness, The NAS/NRC Report on Indoor Pollutants," Int J of Health Sciences, 1984.

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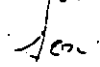
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The Sterling group continues to maintain a large database of buildings in which complaints and symptoms have arisen. This database shows that indoor air quality complaints and symptoms are rarely if ever tied to the presence of smoking. Mr. Elia Sterling, as well, remains active in a number of standards writing organizations, including ASHRAE and APCA, which regularly deal with indoor air quality control and abatement.

Dr. Sterling has also provided assistance in responding to the OTA report of 1985 and has presented his critical evaluation to the Committee. He has prepared special critical reports on the Repace-Lowrey paper and the Hirayama study. In 1985, Dr. Sterling appeared before the Canadian Public Service Staff Relations Board as a witness in an employee grievance on nonsmoker exposure to tobacco smoke.

We continue to consult regularly with Dr. Sterling about directions in scientific research, developments in the smoking and health controversy and on the issues of occupational health, indoor air quality and nonsmoker exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. We believe that Dr. Sterling and colleagues' work is important and we feel that his ongoing project proposal merits support. I hope that this project can be approved at or prior to the meeting of the Committee of Counsel on February 28 in Florida.

Sincerely,


Donald K. Hoel

cc: Miss Janet C. Brown
Francis K. Decker, Esq.

DKH/laa

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